

Supervisor Safety Assessment Training KEY

Stone Safety Assessment

Review the following questions and answers for the safety assessment. First, ask your workers the questions listed and listen to their responses. This will prompt discussion about what information is available in the documentation and what information is missing. These questions are taken directly from the Narrative Guideline handout. **ANSWERS ARE IN BOLD**

Safety Threat

What is the safety threat present in the home, if a safety threat exists? How do you know? Does the narrative describe specific individuals, behaviors, conditions, and circumstances associated with each safety threat? If no safety threat is present, does the narrative describe what makes the child safe?

These narratives did identify three safety threats that were determined to be present in this household. The documentation, however, did not provide an overall analysis of the information gathered that helped to determine safety threats were present. It documents what the children and parent stated in their interview, what was reported, and collateral information from medical and school personnel. These narratives are great in the amount of detail that was provided, however, the worker should be able to consider all of those details and then state the safety threats are present, “as evidenced by”...and link that to the evidence gathered. This documentation belongs in the Family Functioning narratives.

Point out the Safety Threats section (page 2) of the Narrative Guideline handout

Safety Intervention

What safety plan/intervention is in place to control for the safety threat? Does the narrative identify all of the safety interventions being used? Is each intervention written out and explained how it is protecting each child in and out of the household? Does the narrative accurately reflect how the intervention will protect the child and why? Does the narrative describe who is involved in the intervention and what their role is in the intervention? Does the narrative describe the caregiver's involvement and response to the intervention? If no threat was identified and therefore, no intervention was needed, does the narrative explain how the child is safe?

The documentation does provide a safety intervention, but it should state specifically who the safety monitors are, and identify what each of their roles are in the safety intervention. This narrative identifies both Lacey and the father as possible safety monitors, but does not describe what they are each responsible for doing. Ultimately, it is understood that the children were to stay with Lacey in her home, however, that was not spelled out in this section. It should also explain how those safety interventions are working to keep the children safe. It should also explain how the caregiver, Melinda

Stone, feels about the intervention and what her response was to it. Also, this is not a narrative to discuss what services such as drug and alcohol evaluations and hair follicle testing would be conducted. Those services belong in a case plan. This section is strictly for the purpose of identifying who the safety monitors are, and what they are going to be doing to control for the safety threats. i.e. The Safety Intervention in place for these children is for them to reside in the home of Lacey Smith, a family friend of the mother and children. Lacey will provide transportation for the children to get to and from school, daycare, and all other identified activities. Melinda's contact with the children will be supervised by a third party, either Lacey, or Helping Hands agency visitation worker, to supervise the interactions between Melinda and the children.

Point out the Safety Intervention section (page 3) of the Narrative Guideline handout

Safety Decision

Were the children Safe, Conditionally Safe, or Unsafe? How do you know? What evidence is documented to support the safety decision? If they are safe, is there documented evidence to support that? What, if anything, is missing?

The safety decision needs to be stated as to whether the children are Safe, Unsafe, or Conditionally Safe. In this case, the children were identified as conditionally safe, however, they are in an Out-of-Home Safety plan staying with the family friend, so therefore, the children are Unsafe. Conditionally safe is only if the children remain in the home with the caretaker.

The narrative under the safety decision is repetitive of what was already stated in the threats, and doesn't need to be copy and pasted here. Also, police reports should not be copied into the safety assessment. This narrative should state, "The children are Unsafe, as evidenced by, the concerns of the children's medical needs not being met related to their lice infestation, and the children's possible mental health issues. There are additional concerns with the physical living conditions of the home, and Ms. Stone's inability to protect the children, and therefore, the children will be placed out of the home with Lacey Smith."

Point out the Safety Decision section (page 4) of the Narrative Guideline handout